THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (d) A proposal to provide facilities for buying and selling of Foreign Exchange from identified post offices is under consideration and a decision will be taken based upon technical and commercial feasibility.

Payment of bills in post offices

1924. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are launching an innovative project through which one click system would solve the problems of standing and waiting in long queues for payment of bills in post offices;

(b) whether now onwards citizens would be able to make payments of their bills from a host of agencies through computerized working of post offices; and

(c) by when this facility would be extended throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Posts has launched a service called e-Bill Post through which members of the public would be able to pay a variety of public utility bills at select computerized post offices in the country.

(b) As and when different service provides like telephone, electricity, water supply etc. subscribers to this e-Bill Post their consumers can pay the bills at identified Post Offices.

(c) Depending upon the response from different service providers, availability of Internet facility and required funds this will be extended further.